

PRACTICE 7

Choosing Transition Signals

- A. From the choices given in parentheses, choose the transition signal that best shows the relationship between the sentences in each group. Write the signal in the space. Add punctuation and change capital letters to small letters if necessary. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Note: All the transition signals in this practice are transition phrases and conjunctive adverbs. This is to give you more practice in using and punctuating these types of transition signals correctly.

1. A recent article in *Era* magazine suggested ways to reduce inflation. The article suggested that the president reduce the federal budget _____; furthermore _____, it suggested that the government reduce federal, state, and local taxes. (**however, in contrast, furthermore**)
2. The same article said that the causes of inflation were easy to find; however _____ the cure for inflation was not so easy to prescribe. (**however, for example, therefore**)
3. *Era* also suggested that rising wages were one of the primary causes of inflation; therefore _____ the government should take action to control wages. (**however, therefore, for example**)
4. In physics, the weight of an object is the gravitational force¹ with which Earth attracts it; for example _____, if a man weighs 150 pounds, this means that Earth pulls him down with a force of 150 pounds. (**moreover, therefore, for example**)
5. The farther away from Earth a person is, the less the gravitational force of Earth. Therefore _____ a man weighs less when he is 50,000 miles from Earth than when he is only 5,000 miles away. (**in conclusion, therefore, however**)
6. A **tsunami** is a tidal wave produced by an earthquake on the ocean floor. The waves are very long and low in open water, but when they get close to land, they encounter friction¹ because the water is shallow; as a result _____, As a result _____, the waves increase in height and can cause considerable damage when they finally reach land. (**on the other hand, as a result, for example**)

- B. Fill in each blank with an appropriate transition signal from the list provided. Use each signal only once. Add punctuation if necessary.

✓for example ✓in fact ✓similarly ✓also
✓indeed ✓third ✓second ✓final and most convincing

Time

One stereotype about North Americans says that they are obsessed with time. It sometimes seems true that for North Americans, time seems as valuable as money. (1) Indeed, they even say, "Time is money." (2) In fact, have you noticed how many verbs can be followed by both time and money? (3) For example, you can *spend time*, *save time*, *lose time*, *find time*, *make time*, *waste time*, and *run out of time*. (4) Similarly, you can spend, save, lose, find, make, waste, and run out of money. (5) Second, North Americans seem to regard time as a "thing" that one can own. You can *have time*, *buy time*, and *take time*. (One wonders how much it costs and where it is taken.) A (6) third piece of evidence that North Americans are obsessed with time is their fanaticism about always being on time. (7) Also, people who are habitually late risk punishment ranging from frowning disapproval to losing their jobs. The (8) final and most convincing proof is that these poor people sometimes take courses in time management! That is really overdoing it, don't you agree?

- C. Improve the coherence of the following paragraph by adding transitions in the blank spaces. Use the hints provided in parentheses to help you choose a transition.

Move Over, DVD. Here Comes BD!

First, CDs brought digital sound into our homes. Then DVD technology brought digital sound and video and revolutionized the movie industry. Soon there will be (1) another (additional idea) revolution: Blu-ray discs (BDs). A Blu-ray disc will have several advantages. (2) First, (list in order) it has an enormous data storage capacity. A single-sided DVD can hold 4.7 gigabytes of information, about the size of an average 2-hour movie. A single-sided BD, (3) In contrast, (contrast), can hold up to 27 gigabytes, enough for 13 hours of standard video. A (4) Second (list in order) advantage is that a BD can record, store, and play back high-definition video because of its larger capacity. A double-layer BD can store about 50 gigabytes, enough for 4.5 hours of high-definition video. The cost will be about the same. (5) In addition, (additional idea), a BD has a higher data transfer rate—36 megabits per second—than today's DVDs, which transfer at 10 megabits per second. (6) As a result, (result) a BD can record 25 gigabytes of data in just over an hour and a half. (7) In conclusion, (conclusion) because of their large storage capacity and comparable cost, BDs will probably take over the market when they become widely available.